

1 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 101 (GENERAL PROVISIONS AND COUNTY**
2 **GOVERNING AUTHORITY), ARTICLE II (COUNTY GOVERNING AUTHORITY),**
3 **DIVISION 1 (GENERALLY) OF THE FULTON COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES**
4 **RELATING TO BUDGETARY CONTROLS FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF**
5 **COMMISSIONERS BY REDUCING THE TRAVEL/CONFERENCES BUDGET FOR**
6 **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

7 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan sets forth one of its six
8 strategic priorities as open and responsible government; and

9 **WHEREAS**, one of the greatest responsibilities of the members of the Board of
10 Commissioners is that of being good stewards of the public funds entrusted to them for
11 public use; and

12 **WHEREAS**, as stewards of public funds, the Board of Commissioners desires to
13 establish and maintain certain budgetary controls for its members and the administration
14 of their individual offices; and

15 **WHEREAS**, on October 16, 2002, the Board of Commissioners approved a
16 Resolution, otherwise known as the "Edwards Resolution," which established certain
17 budgetary controls, relating to the members of the Board of Commissioners and the
18 staffing and administration of their individual offices; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Edwards Resolution is codified at Fulton County Code ("FCC") §
20 101-38; and

21 **WHEREAS**, on May 4, 2011, the Board of Commissioners approved a Resolution,
22 otherwise known as the "Eaves Resolution," which amended certain provisions of the
23 Edwards Resolution and certain budgetary controls, relating to the members of the Board
24 of Commissioners and the staffing and administration of their individual offices; and

25 **WHEREAS**, on December 19, 2018, the Board of Commissioners approved a
26 Resolution which amended subsection (d) of FCC § 101-38, relating to the members of

1 the Board of Commissioners and the annual travel budget allocated to each
2 Commissioner; and

3 **WHEREAS**, on April 17, 2019, the Board of Commissioners approved Resolution
4 19-0157 to provide authority to permit the personal staff of a vacated commission district
5 to remain employed to the extent needed to continue services for such vacated
6 commission district; and

7 **WHEREAS**, on May 4, 2022, the Board of Commissioners approved Resolution
8 22-0327, which amended FCC § 101-38, by creating and adding a new Subsection (f),
9 relating to miscellaneous limitations on the permissible uses of Commissioners' budgets
10 and County resources; and

11 **WHEREAS**, on August 17, 2022, as Agenda Item No. 22-0571, the Board of
12 Commissioners approved a Resolution rolling back the millage rate for all Fulton County
13 taxpayers from 9.33 mills to 8.87 mills; and

14 **WHEREAS**, because of the lower millage rate approved, the Board of
15 Commissioners anticipates a significant reduction in the collection of funds for the
16 General Fund; and

17 **WHEREAS**, despite the anticipated loss of revenue to the County, the Board of
18 Commissioners remains committed to delivering quality services to the citizens of Fulton
19 County; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the County's budget line item number 1307 is specifically designated
2 for Travel/Conferences but, in the past, these funds could be used for other purposes;
3 and

4 **WHEREAS**, so as to assist the County in meeting the anticipated budget shortfalls
5 due to the reduced millage rate, the Board of Commissioners recognize that expenses
6 for budget item line number 1307 should be restricted to only Travel/Conference
7 expenses; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners finds it to be in the best interest of the
9 taxpayers of Fulton County to amend FCC § 101-38(d) to reduce the amount of each
10 Commissioner's travel budget and to expressly limit the use of those funds for
11 Travel/Conference expenses so as to ensure the availability of those funds for services
12 and programs that benefit the citizens of Fulton County.

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, that the Fulton County Board of
14 Commissioners hereby amends Section 101-38(d) of Chapter 101, Article II, Division 1 of
15 the Fulton County Code of Ordinances, which when amended shall read as follows:

16 Sec. 101-38(d). - Budgetary controls over expenses.

17 (d) Travel. Each commissioner is allocated an annual travel budget of ~~\$50,000.00~~ \$25,000.00 for specific
18 ~~commission-related business outside of Fulton County, including specifically for Travel/Conference~~
19 ~~expenses related to~~ professional conferences and conventions. The finance director shall establish a
20 separate travel account for each commissioner. Travel per diem for food and lodging related to a
21 commissioner's travel to and attendance at a conference shall be paid from said travel accounts when
22 documented by the submission of receipts or other proofs of payment of said incurred expenses. Prior
23 to undertaking each period of county travel status hereunder, said commissioner shall submit a written
24 memorandum of travel to be maintained by the finance director with said commissioner's travel
25 account. Said memorandum of travel shall specifically designate the travel destinations, the
26 ~~commission-related business and purposes of~~ conference to be attended as part of said travel, and
27 the planned duration of said travel. Said memorandum shall also comply with Fulton County's
28 Personnel Policy and Procedures for travel, training, parking automobile allowance and mileage

1 reimbursement, No. 209-16. Funds allocated to annual travel budgets may not be transferred from the
2 travel expense account to any other operating account of the commissioner's office or used for any
3 purpose other than the travel to and attendance of professional conferences. ~~Funds from the~~
4 ~~operations accounts, other than risk management-related accounts, may be transferred into the travel~~
5 ~~and training budget.~~

6 **BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED**, that this Ordinance shall become effective when
7 adopted, and that all Ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance,
8 are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

9 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County,
10 Georgia this 7th day of September 2022.

11 **FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF**
12 **COMMISSIONERS**
13 **SPONSORED BY:**
14

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16 _____
17 Bob Ellis, Commissioner
18 District 2
19

20
21 **ATTEST:**
22

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24 _____
25 Tonya R. Grier
26 Clerk to the Commission
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29 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**
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32 _____
33 Y. Soo Jo
34 County Attorney
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37 Budget.docx
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